

# **Montana Newsletter**

*Montana State Library*

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## News

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION



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Inez Herrig, (center) Lincoln County Librarian for the past 58 years, joins Library Commission Chair, Mary Hudspeth and State Librarian, Sara Parker, to display the sign for Lincoln County Library's new reference room.

#### COMMISSION DISCUSSES WLN

The Montana State Library Commission met August 19th at the Missoula Public Library. Items on the agenda included approval of Sagebrush and Golden Plains' Plans of Service. There was discussion of Western Library Network's plans to change its governing structure. Commissioners approved a new policy on time-to-let limits on LSCA Title II funded project construction bids. The Commission also voted to amend the Administrative Rules to change the number of members of the Library Services Advisory Council.

It was reported that WLN

is in need of additional funds to upgrade equipment and software and for research and development. There are several options for exploration of funding still under discussion by the Washington State Library Commission. The Montana Library Commissioners feel an agreement between WLN and the online Computer Library Center (OCLC) would probably be the most feasible option.

In other business, the motion was passed that, beginning with FY 1988, LSCA Title II funded construction bids be let within 15 months of the Commission's construction award. Failure to comply will cause the award to revert to the Commission.

Also passed was a motion to amend the Administrative Rules to reduce the number of Advisory Council members from 10 to 15. Commissioners felt it unnecessary to have 10 members because Advisory Council meetings are never attended by all of the 10. The Administrative Rules were approved as amended.

#### COMMISSION HEARS FROM COMMITTEES

The Library Commission held its October 14th meeting in Roundup in the combined school/public library. The commissioners approved the Pathfinder Federation Plan of Service. They heard reports from the Technology Committee (formerly the Automation Committee) and recommendations from the Collection Development Committee.

The Technology Committee interim report was a survey of all available bibliographic utility services. The report includes a summary of the status of WLN's plans for governance and financial restructuring. The Washington State Library Commission has directed the Washington State Librarian to work aggressively toward a change in WLN's governance and (See WLN ON PG. 2)



can be answered quickly, usually through consultation of one reference resource.

Objectives of the project are to improve, statewide, the quality of information service to library users and to provide training to upgrade skills of those librarians providing information.

## MONTANA'S FIRST CULTURAL CONGRESS ATTRACTS VARIED GROUP

The varied interests and points of view of the participants at Montana's first Cultural Congress created a lively atmosphere at the billings operation September 12-14. The self-appointed delegates came from all parts of the state. There were technical engineers from grassroots television stations and there were owners of prestigious art galleries. Librarians, sculptors, musicians and politicians were among the approximately 200 persons who came together to express their concerns about and their hopes for Montana's cultural future.

The sponsors of the event, the Montana State Library, the Montana Committee for the Humanities and the Montana Arts Council were there to listen to participants' ideas about where to direct state agency resources in the near future.

Besides serving as a forum for these ideas, the conference featured several well-known speakers including writer, Ivan Voig and Governor Ted Schwinden, who both spoke of their personal experiences as creators and guardians of



Diana Dowling, Director of the Montana State Lottery draws a name of a Cultural Congress Scholarship recipient. Dowling doesn't get to draw Big Spin entries.

the cultural history of the state.

The second day of the congress saw the delegates breaking into small discussion groups whose task it was to form resolutions to be used as guidelines for the sponsoring agencies. Of the 66 resolutions, many confront library issues.

It was decided by participants that the 66 resolutions will be studied by the heads of the sponsoring agencies and their commission chairs who will condense the list to a few key resolutions. The slimmed-down list of resolutions will be sent to the Cultural Congress participants for voting. The list of resolutions approved by the participants will then be used by agencies and other administrative bodies to determine the needs of the cultural community.

## PROJECT EXCELLENCE MEETS IN HELENA

Project Excellence, a project of the Montana Board of Public Education,

took its first steps forward with an organizational meeting in Helena on September 10. The goal of Project Excellence is to design education for the next century. The project is innovative, said Margy Rolando of the Office of Public Instruction, because it deals with outcome rather than input based standards.

Chairpersons for 6 "action groups" have been selected. The chair of the Administration, Library Media, Guidance and Counseling action group is Mignon Waterman, a Helena school district trustee. Among the other members of the committee are two librarians - Jonn York, Kalispell Elementary/Junior High School and Avis Anderson, Dawson County High School.

In May, 1988, public hearings will be held in 9 cities around Montana. The compilation of the committee findings and input from the public meetings will be presented to the 1989 legislature, as per the legislature's request.

## AROUND THE STATE

Burlington Northern made a \$12,000 grant to the Bicentennial Library of Colstrip. The grant will be used for a computer and for library furnishings for their new facilities in the main services building.

A travelling exhibit, "Where We're a Nation?" will be in billings at the Family Billings Library on February 2 through March 15, 1980. Family Billings is one of 20 libraries in the United States selected to host the exhibit which is based on a new book, Public Library exhibit.

The Montana Faxnet Program will select 10 public libraries in Montana to receive federal office equipment. They will have access to federal information on a daily basis and a phone call. Interested public librarians should contact Montana Faxnet Project, State Law Library, 210 N. Sanders, Butte 59702, 444-4471. Ask for receipt of applications by Jan. 15.

The Lewis & Clark Library in Helena offers something

special to its users. Featured on display at the library are works by Helena artists Dale Livezey, a painter and David Reagan, a potter.

The Great Falls Public Library will hold its 20th anniversary celebration on November 12. The celebration plans include an open house, a "mortgage burning" ceremony and the formal dedication of the library's meeting room. The staff is planning promotions and displays in connection with the event.

It was erroneously reported in the July-August issue of the State Library Newsletter that the Glasgow Public Library had a union list of serials more current than NEW. In reality, the Glasgow Public is still working on federal union list.

Tim Moffatt resigned as director of the Glasgow Library effective Sept. 22.

The Livingston Public Library will soon be the first small library in Montana to have a fully automated circulation desk. The switch to automation is

almost complete. Livingston also purchased, with an LSAC/LIRN grant, a Laserlat system.

Izella Warner, librarian from Fort Belknap needs library equipment, furniture and supplies to equip the new Fort Belknap College/Public Library. Warner says there is no funding available to purchase items for the library. Persons who are able to supply furniture, card catalogs, cardexes or supplies should contact Izella Warner, Route 1, Box 6, Chinook, MT 59526, 35/-2536 (day), 35/-2535 (evenings).

The Montana Arts Council will offer a one-day seminar on Fundamentals of Endowment Development for those wanting to explore developing endowments for their organizations. The seminar will be held November 10 in billings at the Family Billings Library and November 18 in Helena at the Lewis & Clark Public Library. Interested persons should contact Bill Pratt, Montana Arts Council, 35 S. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59602 444-6430.

### Montana State Library News

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### Montana State Library Commission

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